

HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND URBAN POLICY

Tuesday, November 14, 2006

9:00 a.m.

Room 326 House Office Building

Representative Stakoe, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Stakoe, Elsenheimer, Robertson, Nitz, Baxter, Schuitmaker, Tobocman, Accavitti, Donigan, Vagnozzi.

MEMBER ABSENT: Representative Virgil Smith.

Representative Elsenheimer moved, supported by **Representative Nitz**, to excuse the absent member.

There being no objection, the motion prevailed by **unanimous consent**.

MEMBER ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Virgil Smith.

Representative **Nitz** moved to approve the minutes of the **September 7, 2006** meeting.

Representative **Schuitmaker** supported the motion.

There being no objection, the motion prevailed by unanimous consent.

The Chair laid **HB 6469, HB 6470, HB 6471, HB 6472, HB 6473 and HB 6545** before the committee.

HB 6469	Amos	Drains; other; enforcement power for removing obstructions or interferences with drains; increase and establish penalties.
HB 6470	Taub	Drains; districts; liability for certain legal expenses of a drainage district; clarify.
HB 6471	Stakoe	Drains; drain commissioners; employment of engineering employees; allow.
HB 6472	Mayes	Drains; other; definition of the term "visibly in existence"; provide for.

HB 6473	Accavitti	Drains; drain commissioners; authorize county board of commissioners to change name of office of county drain commissioner to office of the water resources commissioner; provide for and increase amount of bond.
HB 6545	Taub	Drains; maintenance and improvement; amount that drain commissioner can spend on maintenance of a drain; increase.

Representative Taub explained her bills to the committee and introduced **Joseph Colaianne**, **Geoffrey Seidlein**, and **Patrick Lindemann**, representing the Michigan Association of County Drain Commissioners. Mr. Colaianne, Mr. Seidlein, and Mr. Lindemann explained the package of bills to the committee members. Questions and discussion followed.

Bill Anderson, representing the Michigan Townships Association, testified on the package of bills before the committee.

Joe Fivas and **Brad Heffner**, representing the Michigan Municipal League, testified in **support** of **HB 6470** with amendments.

Ed Noyola, representing the County Road Association of Michigan, testified indicating a **neutral** position on the package of bills.

Rob Anderson, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, testified in **opposition** to **HB 6545**.

Brian Westrin and **David Pierson**, representing the Michigan Association of Realtors, testified in **opposition** to the package of bills before the committee.

Liesl Clark and **Mike Gregg**, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture, testified indicating a **neutral** position.

Jerry Griffin, representing the Wayne County Department of Environment, and **Tom Hickson**, representing the Michigan Association of Counties, submitted testimony cards indicating **support** of the package of bills before the committee, but did not wish to speak.

Representative **Elsenheimer** moved to report **HB 6469**, with recommendation.

Representative **Nitz** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 6-0-3.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Stakoe, Elsenheimer, Van Regenmorter, Nitz, Baxter and Schuitmaker,

Nays: None,

Pass: Representatives Accavitti, Donigan and Vagnozzi.

HB 6469 reported out with recommendation.

Representative **Elsenheimer** moved to report **HB 6470**, with recommendation.

Representative **Van Regenmorter** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 6-0-3.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Stakoe, Elsenheimer, Van Regenmorter, Nitz, Baxter and Schuitmaker,

Nays: None,

Pass: Representatives Accavitti, Donigan and Vagnozzi.

HB 6470 reported out with recommendation.

Representative **Elsenheimer** moved, supported by Representative **Nitz**, to adopt the following **amendment to HB 6471**.

1. Amend page 2, line 2, after “county” by striking out “shall” and inserting “MAY”.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 9-0-0.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Stakoe, Elsenheimer, Van Regenmorter, Nitz, Baxter, Schuitmaker, Accavitti, Donigan and Vagnozzi.

Nays: None,

Pass: None.

Representative **Van Regenmorter** moved to report **HB 6471 as substitute (H-1)**, with recommendation.

Representative **Baxter** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 6-0-3.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Stakoe, Elsenheimer, Van Regenmorter, Nitz, Baxter and Schuitmaker,

Nays: None,

Pass: Representatives Accavitti, Donigan and Vagnozzi.

HB 6471 reported out as Substitute (H-1), with recommendation.

Representative **Elsenheimer** moved to **report HB 6472**, with recommendation.

Representative **Van Regenmorter** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 6-0-3.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Stakoe, Elsenheimer, Van Regenmorter, Nitz, Baxter and Schuitmaker,

Nays: None,

Pass: Representatives Accavitti, Donigan and Vagnozzi.

HB 6472 reported out with recommendation.

Representative **Baxter** moved to report **HB 6473**, with recommendation.

Representative **Van Regenmorter** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 7-0-3.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Stakoe, Elsenheimer, Van Regenmorter, Robertson, Nitz, Baxter and Schuitmaker,

Nays: None,

Pass: Representatives Accavitti, Donigan and Vagnozzi.

HB 6473 reported out with recommendation.

Representative **Van Regenmorter** moved to report **HB 6545**, with recommendation.

Representative **Robertson** supported the motion.

The motion prevailed by a vote of 6-0-4.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Stakoe, Elsenheimer, Van Regenmorter, Robertson, Nitz and Schuitmaker,

Nays: None,

Pass: Representatives Baxter, Accavitti, Donigan and Vagnozzi.

HB 6545 reported out with recommendation.

Chairmen Stakoe announced that the committee would not be taking up HB 5124 at this meeting.

With no further business to come before the committee, the Chair adjourned the meeting, the time being 10:15 a.m.

Representative John Stakoe, Chair

Date Approved and Signed

Dave Mead
Committee Clerk
November 14, 2005
1 Hour and 15 minutes